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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A fastener, comprising:

a spiral set of teeth; and

a selectively compliant core material running completely internally to said spiral set of teeth; and

coupling means for connecting said selectively compliant core material to said spiral set of teeth at both distal ends of said spiral set of teeth so that said fastener is laterally flexible along its length.

Claim 2 (original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said coupling means is welding.

Claim 3 (original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said coupling means is pinching.

Claim 4 (previously amended) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said selectively compliant core material comprises innermost wires grouped and bound with wires spirally wound in opposing directions.

Claim 5 (original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said spiral set of teeth have a convex portion and a concave portion, wherein the convex portion is smaller than said concave portion.

Claim 6 (original) The spiral set of teeth of claim 5, wherein said convex portion of a lower layer of spiral teeth fits into said concave portion of an upper layer of spiral teeth.

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Claim 7 (original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said spiral set of teeth interlock one into another.

Claim 8 (currently amended) A fastener, comprising:

a spiral set of teeth; and

a selectively compliant core material running completely internally to said spiral set of teeth and along the length of said spiral set of teeth; and

coupling means for connecting said selectively compliant core material to said spiral set of teeth at both distal ends of said spiral set of teeth so that said fastener is laterally flexible along its length; and

means at a distal end of said spiral set of teeth for imparting rotational movement thereto.

Claim 9 (original) The fastener of claim 8, wherein said coupling means is welding.

Claim 10 (original) The fastener of claim 8, wherein said coupling means is pinching.

Claim 11 (original) The fastener of claim 8, wherein said means for imparting rotational movement is a bolt head.

Claim 12 (original) The fastener of claim 8, wherein said means for imparting rotational movement is a screw head.

Claim 13 (previously amended) The fastener of claim 8, wherein said selectively compliant core material comprises innermost wires grouped and bound with wires spirally wound in opposing directions.

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Claim 14 (original) The fastener of claim 8, wherein said spiral set of teeth have a convex portion and a concave portion, wherein the convex portion is smaller than said concave portion.

Claim 15 (original) The fastener of claim 14, wherein said convex portion of a lower layer of spiral teeth fits into said concave portion of an upper layer of spiral teeth.

Claim 16 (original) The fastener of claim 8, wherein said spiral set of teeth interlock one into another.

Claims 17-38 (cancelled)